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AN
EASY EXPLANATION
OF THE
Parts of Speech,

BY

Question and Answer:

BEING AN
INTRODUCTION
TO THE
FRENCH GRAMMAR.

By G. GAULTIER.

French and Italian Teacher;
Intended for the use of young *Pupils*.



BIRMINGHAM:

Printed by J. SKETCHLEY, for the *Author*,
and may be had of all the *Booksellers*.

(Price One Shilling.)



To my Scholars,

Gentlemen and Ladies.

NO other motive whatever has induced me to commit this little work to the Press, but the flattering hope that it may prove of service to you. The best French Grammars have been written by learned Men whose understanding was too sublime to express their Ideas in an easy and plain manner; they say good things, but a Child or a person who is not already conversant with Grammar, cannot understand them; and if the Teacher

be able and willing to perform his duty, must explain the rudiments of Grammar to his young pupils in a more familiar way, than that generally used in French Grammars.

Such has been my practice for many Years, and by bringing the explanation of the Parts of Speech into a familiar conversation with my pupils, have had the satisfaction of seeing them fully convinced of their meaning and use.

I have inserted the very same conversation in this little book
with

with a view of keeping it before your eyes; and as I have endeavoured to elucidate the chief difficulties of the French Language, I hope the perusal of it will be of some service even to those who have already made some proficiency in the Language.

If the result answer my wishes I shall be fully recompensed for my trouble.

I AM,

Your obliged humble servant,

G. GAULTIER.

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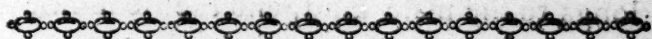
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CHAP. I.
DEFINITION
OF THE PARTS OF SPEECH,
GENDER AND NUMBER.



Quest. **W**HAT is meant by parts of speech?

A. By parts of speech is meant the different nature of all the words which compose a Language, for, every word we may either say or write, is a part of the speech or discourse we make.

Q. *How many are they in French?*

A. Nine, the article, the noun, the pronoun, the verb, the participle, the adverb, the preposition, the conjunction, and the interjection.

Q. *What is necessary to understand before we enter into the explanation of these parts of speech.*

A.

A. It is necessary to understand two accidents of grammar, viz, the gender and the number.

Q. *What is the gender?*

A. The gender is properly that, which shews the difference of the Sexes.

Q. *How many Genders are they in French?*

A. Two only, the masculine which belongs to the male kind, and the feminine which belongs to the female kind.

Q. *Of what gender are then in French all the inanimate things, as Table, Book &c?*

A. Some of the masculine and some of the feminine gender, as there is no neuter in the French Language.

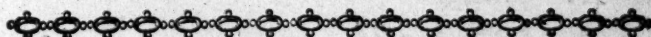
Q. *Who has determined which of the two genders each of the inanimate things should have?*

A. Custom, so if the word ; *livre*, book, be masculine and the word *table*, table, be feminine in French, 'tis only owing to an established custom.

Q. *What is the number?*

A. The number shews the difference betwixt one and several. There are two numbers, the Singular and the Plural; the Singular

gular expresses one single thing, the Plural more than one.



C H A P. II.

Of the Articles.

Q. What is an Article?

A. An Article is a small word placed before the name of the things, and serves in French to shew the gender and number of the same; as the book *le livre*, the table *la table*, the books *les livres*, the tables *les tables*.

Q. How many different sorts of articles are they?

A. We may reckon two sorts of articles; the definite and the Indefinite.

Q. Which is the definite article?

A. *The*, in English; rendered into French by *le* for the masculine, *la* for the feminine, before nouns beginning with a consonant or an *h* aspirate, *l'* before nouns of both genders beginning with a vowel or an *h* mute, *les* for the plural of both

genders and of all denominations.

Q. Give me some examples?

A. Singular.

Plural.

the book *le livre*

les livres

the hero *le héros*

les héros

the scholar *l'écolier*

les écoliers

the man *l'homme*

les hommes

the pen *la plume*

les plumes

the hedge *la haye*

les hayes

the herb *l'herbe*

les herbes

the school *l'école*

les écoles

m.

f.

Q. Which is the Indefinite article?

A. A or an for the singular and some for the plural; rendered into French by un m. une f. for the singular and des for the plural of both genders.

Q. Give me some examples.

A. M.

Singular.

a hat *un chapeau*

an order *un ordre*

Plural.

some hats *des chapeaux*

some orders *des ordres*

Singular

F. Singular.

a pen *une plume*

an orange *une orange*

Plural.

some pens *des plumes*

some oranges *des oranges*

Q. What difference is there in the meaning of these two articles?

A. The definite article fixes the idea to a particular object meant by the person who speaks, for if I say; give me the book, I must mean a particular book, whereas the indefinite article does not mean any particular object, and if I say; give me a book, I have no idea of any particular book.

Q. Is there any other sort of articles in French?

A. Yes, there is the article *du* for the masculine, and *de la* for the feminine *de l'* for nouns of both genders beginning with a vowel or an *h* mute.

Q. How do you call this article?

A. Many grammarians have call'd it, partitive article, because it expresses a part

of the whole kind of a substance ; but others have comprehended it under the denomination of the indefinite article, since it gives an indefinite idea of an unlimited quantity of something and when expressed in English is rendered by, some.

Q. Give me some examples?

A. Wine, or some wine <i>du vin</i>	} m
holy-oak or some holy-oak <i>du houx</i>	
honor, or some honor <i>de l'honneur</i>	
wit, or some wit <i>de l'esprit</i>	
beer, or some beer <i>de la bière</i>	} f
boldness, or some bold. <i>de la hardiesse</i>	
humour or some humour <i>de l'humeur</i>	
water, or some water <i>de l'eau</i>	

Q. Is this article sometimes changed?

A. The indefinite article *du, de la* and *des*, when they happen to be before any word denoting the quality of a thing are changed into *de*, and if before a vowel or an *h* mute into *l'* for both genders.

Q. Give me some examples?

A. Good wine *de bon vin*
 bad beer *de mauvaise bière*
 ancient friends *d'anciens amis*
 amiable young ladies *d'aimables demoiselles.*



C H A P. III.

Of Nouns.

Q. *What is a noun?*

A. A Noun is either substantive, or adjective; when it expresses the name of a thing is a substantive, and when it expresses the quality, is an adjective.

Q. *Which is the easiest way to distinguish a substantive from an adjective?*

A. If a word will make good sense with the words; good, or bad, is a substantive, and if it will make sense with the words; person, or thing, is an adjective.

Q. *Illustrate this rule by an example?*

A. House, boy; are substantives, because we may say, a good house, a bad boy; but great, and small, are adjectives, because we may say a great person, a small thing.

Q. *How must an adjective agree with its substantive in French?*

A. It must agree in gender and num-

ber; the adjective always following the gender and number of the substantive.

Q. Give me an example?

A. A good boy *un bon garçon*
 a good girl *une bonne fille*
 good boys *de bons garçons*
 good girls *de bonnes filles.*

Q. What is the declension of nouns?

A. The declension of nouns is the manner of expressing them in all their cases.

Q. What is the meaning of the word cases?

A. The cases of nouns signify the different senses in which a noun can be made use of, and are distinguished by the articles.

Q. How many cases are there?

A. Six: The nominative, the genitive, the dative, the accusative, the vocative, and the ablative.

Q. Give me an example of the same substantive used in all the six different cases?

A. The word, *Heaven*, is

Nominative

Nominative in

Heaven is merciful. | Le ciel est miséricor-
dieux.

Genitive in

The glory of *Heaven*. | *La gloire du ciel*.

Dative in

Give praises to | *Donnez des louanges.*
Heaven. | au ciel,

Accusative in

I adore Heaven. | J'adore le ciel.

Vocative in

Heaven! what do I see? | O ciel! que vois-je?

Ablative in

The righteous expect their reward from <i>Heaven</i>.	<i>Les justes attendent leur recompense du ciel.</i>
--	---

Q. Must you decline all French nouns through all these six cases?

A. No, we may decline the French nouns in three cases only; for, the nominative and the accusative being alike may be comprehended in the first case; the genitive and ablative, though differently expressed

expressed in English, are the same in French, and form the second case, and the dative is the third case.

Q. *Do you not decline the vocative case?*

A. There is no need of declining it, because it never takes any article before it, it is only sometimes preceded by the particle, O.

Q. *How do you decline then in French, with the definite article, all the nouns masculine beginning with a consonant, or an h aspirate?*

A. Singular.

- 1 le livre, ou le héros *the book or hero.*
- 2 du livre, ou du héros *of or from the book*
or hero.
- 3 au livre, ou au héros *to the book or hero.*

Plural.

- 1 les livres ou les héros *the books or heroes.*
- 2 des livres, ou des héros *of or from the*
books or heroes
- 3 aux livres, ou aux héros *to the books or*
heroes.

Q. *How do you decline, with the same article, all nouns feminine, beginning with a consonant or an h aspirate?*

A.

A. Singular.

- 1 la plume, ou la haye *the pen or hedge.*
- 2 de la plume, ou de la haye *of or from
the pen or hedge.*
- 3 à la plume, ou à la haye *to the pen or
hedge.*

Plural.

- 1 les plumes, ou les hayes *the pens or
hedges.*
- 2 des plumes, ou des hayes *of or from the
pens or hedges,*
- 3 aux plumes, ou aux hayes *to the pens or
hedges.*

Q. *How do you decline, with the same article, all nouns either masculine, or feminine, beginning with a vowel or an h mute?*

A. Singular.

mas. fem.

- 1 l'homme, ou l'herbe *the man or herb.*
- 2 de l'homme, ou de l'herbe *of or from the
man or herb.*
- 3 à l'homme, ou à l'herbe *to the man or
herb.*

Plural.

Plural.

1 les hommes, ou les herbes *the men or
herbs.*

2 des hommes, ou des herbes *of or from
the men or herbs.*

3 aux hommes, ou aux herbes *to the men
or herbs.*

Q. *How do you decline in French, with the
indefinite article, all nouns masculine, beginning
with a consonant, or an h aspirate?*

A. Singular.

1 un chapeau, ou un hêtre *a hat or beech-
tree.*

2 d'un chapeau, ou d'un hêtre *of or from a
hat or beech-tree.*

3 à un chapeau, ou à un hêtre *to a hat or
beech-tree.*

Plural.

1 des chapeaux, ou des hêtres *some hats
or beech trees.*

2 de chapeaux, ou de hêtres *of or from
some hats or beech trees.*

3 à des chapeaux ou à des hêtres *to some
hats or beech-trees.*

Q.

Q. *How do you decline in French, with the same article, all nouns masculine, beginning with a vowel, or an h mute?*

A. Singular.

- 1 un ordre, ou un habit *an order or suit*
- 2 d'un ordre, ou d'un habit *of or from an order or suit*
- 3 à un ordre, ou à un habit *to an order or suit*

Plural.

- 1 des ordres, ou des habits *some orders or suits*
- 2 d'ordres, ou d'habits *of or from some orders or suits*
- 3 à des ordres, ou à des habits *to some orders or suits.*

Q. *How do you decline in French, with the same article, all nouns feminine, beginning with a consonant, or an h aspirate?*

A. Singular.

- 1 une plume, ou une houppe *a pen or puff*
- 2 d'une plume, ou d'une houppe *of or from a pen or puff*

d

3

3 à une plume, ou à une houppe *to to a
pen or puff.*

Plural.

1 des plumes, ou des houppes *some pens
or puffs*

2 de plumes, ou de houppes *of or from
some pens or puffs*

3 à des plumes, ou à des houppes *to some
pens or puffs.*

Q. *How do you decline, with the same article, all nouns feminine, beginning with a vowel, or an h mute?*

A. Singular.

1 une orange, ou une huitre *an orange or
oyster*

2 d'une orange, ou d'une huitre *of or
from an orange or oyster*

3 à une orange, ou à une huitre *to an
orange or oyster.*

Plural.

1 des oranges, ou des huitres *some
oranges or oysters*

2 d'oranges, ou d'huitres *of or from
some oranges or oysters*

3 à des oranges, ou à des huitres *to some oranges or oysters.*

Q. *How do you decline, with the partitive indefinite article, all nouns masculine, beginning with a consonant, or an h aspirate?*

A.

1 du vin, ou du houblon *some wine or hops*

2 de vin, ou de houblon *of or from some wine or hops*

3 à du vin, à ou du houblon *to some wine or hops.*

Q. *How do you decline with the same article all nouns feminine, beginning with a consonant, or an h aspirate?*

A.

1 de la bière, ou de la hardieffe *some beer or boldness*

2 de bière, ou de hardieffe *of or from some beer or boldness*

3 à de la bière, ou à de la hardieffe *to some beer or boldness.*

Q. *How do you decline, with the same article, all nouns either masculine, or feminine, beginning with a vowel or an h mute?*

A

A. *mas.* *fem.*

1 de l'ésprit, ou de l'eau *some wit or water*

2 d'ésprit, ou d'eau *of or from some wit or
water*

3 à de l'ésprit, ou à de l'eau *to some wit or
water.*

Q. *Is there any nouns which are declined without an article?*

A. Yes: all proper names of men, women, towns, &c. are declined with the prepositions *de* and *à*, example.

1 Londres, ou Guillaume *London or
William*

2 de Londres, ou de Guillaume *of or
from London or William*

3 à Londres, ou à Guillaume *to London
or William.*

Q. *What is meant by degrees of comparison?*

A. By degrees of comparison is meant the different manners of using an adjective.

Q. *How many are there?*

A. Three: the positive, the comparative, and the superlative.

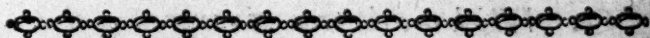
Q.

Q. *What do they express?*

A. The positive expresses merely the common quality of a thing; as, this book is good. *ce livre est bon.*

The comparative implies comparison; as, my book is *better* than his; *mon livre est meilleur que le sien.*

The superlative expresses the highest degree; as there is *the best* book, *voilà le meilleur livre.*



C H A P. I V.

Of Pronouns.

Q. *What is a pronoun?*

A. A pronoun is a word which is often used instead of a noun.

Q. *How many sorts of pronouns are there?*

A. Six: personal, possessive, demonstrative, relative, interrogative, and improper, or definite.

SEC.

SECTION. I.

Of Personal Pronouns.

Q. *What is the use of personal pronouns?*

A. Personal pronouns are commonly used instead of the name of persons.

Q. *How many different persons are there?*

A. Three : both in the singular and Plural.

Q. *Which are the pronouns expressing these three persons?*

A. First person

sing.	Je, or moi	I.	} of both genders.
plur.	Nous	we.	

Second person

sing.	Tu, or toi	thee.	} of both genders.
plur.	Vous	you, or ye.	

Third person

sing.	Il, or lui	he or it.	} masculine.
plur.	Ils, or eux	they.	
sing.	Elle	she or it.	} feminine.
plur.	Elles	they.	

Q. *How do you decline these pronouns?*

A.

A. As the oblique cases of these pronouns are very often expressed in French by the conjunctive pronouns, which generally go before the verb, we shall decline them through five cases and mention the conjunctive pronouns in the cases they stand for.

First person of both genders

Singular.

	Disjunctive.	Conjunctive.	
Nom.	Je or moi		<i>I</i>
Gen.	de moi	en	<i>of me</i>
Dat.	à moi	me	<i>to me</i>
Acc.	moi	me	<i>me</i>
Abl.	de moi	en	<i>from me</i>

Plural.

Nom.	nous		<i>we</i>
Gen.	de nous	en	<i>of us</i>
Dat.	à nous	nous	<i>to us</i>
Acc.	nous	nous	<i>us</i>
Abl.	de nous	en	<i>from us</i>

Second

Second person of both genders

Singular.

Disjunctive. Conjunctive.

Nom.	Tu or toi		<i>thou</i>
Gen.	de toi	en	<i>of thee</i>
Dat.	à toi	te	<i>to thee</i>
Acc.	toi	te	<i>thee</i>
Abl.	de toi	en	<i>from thee</i>

Plural.

Nom.	Vous		<i>you or ye</i>
Gen.	de vous	en	<i>of you or ye</i>
Dat.	à vous	vous	<i>to you or ye</i>
Acc.	vous	vous	<i>you or ye</i>
Abl.	de vous	en	<i>from you or ye</i>

Third person masculine.

Singular.

Disjunctive. Conjunctive.

Nom.	Il or lui		<i>he or it</i>
Gen.	de lui	en	<i>of him or it</i>
Dat.	à lui	lui or y	<i>to him or it</i>
			Acc.

Acc.	lui	le	<i>him or it</i>
Abl.	de lui	en	<i>from him or it.</i>

Plural,

Nom.	Ils or, eux		<i>they</i>
Gen.	d'eux	en	<i>of them</i>
Dat.	à eux	leur or y	<i>to them</i>
Acc.	eux	les	<i>them</i>
Abl.	d'eux	en	<i>from them.</i>

Third person feminine.

Singular,

Disjunctive. Conjunctive.

Nom.	elle		<i>she or it</i>
Gen.	d'elle	en	<i>of her or it</i>
Dat.	à elle	lui or y	<i>to, her or it</i>
Acc.	elle	la	<i>her or it</i>
Abl.	d'elle	en	<i>from her or it</i>

Plural,

Nom.	elles		<i>they</i>
Gen.	d'elles	en	<i>of them</i>
Dat.	à elles	leur or y	<i>to them</i>
Acc.	elles	les	<i>them</i>
Abl.	d'elles	en	<i>from them.</i>

Q. What are you to remark on these pronouns?

A. I must remark that the two conjunctive pronouns *en* and *y* are also call'd supplying pronouns, because they supply the different genders and numbers; the former may refer to persons as well as things of the three different persons, the latter commonly refers to things of both genders and numbers of the third person only.

Q. Give me some examples?

A. *Il en parle*, may signify, he speaks of me, of thee, of him, of her, of it, of us, of you, of them, of those things.

J'y répondrai, may signify, I shall answer to it, or to them, (meaning things.)

Q. Which is the pronoun call'd indeterminate?

A. The pronoun *on* is call'd indeterminate because it expresses an indeterminate person; it has only the nominative case singular, and answers to the English words; one, they, or people ex. *on doit*, one must,

must, *on joue*, they play, *on dit*, people say, or it is said.

Q. Which is the reflective indeterminate pronoun?

A. The reflective indeterminate pronoun is, *soi*, it is call'd reflective because it refers to the same object expressed by the nominative of the sentence ex. *on aime à parler de soi*, one likes to speak of himself.

Q. How do you decline it?

A. As it has no nominative case, it is declined only in the oblique cases, thus.

Singular of both genders.

Disj. Conj.

2	de foi en	of or from	}	one's-self, himself, herself, or itself.
3	à foi	se to		
4	foi	se		

Plural masculine.

2	d'eux mêmes en	of or from	}	themselves.
3	à eux mêmes	se to		
4	eux mêmes	se		

Plen

Plural feminine.

- | | | | | |
|---|---------------|---------------|---|------------|
| 2 | d'elles mêmes | en of or from | } | themselves |
| 3 | à elles mêmes | se to | | |
| 4 | elles mêmes | se | | |

SECTION. II.

Of Possessive Pronouns.

Q. What is the use of possessive pronouns?

A. Possessive pronouns are used to mark possession; as, *mon chapeau*; my hat, *votre plume*; your pen; that is to say, the hat I am in possession of, the pen you are in possession of.

Q. How many sorts of possessive pronouns are there?

A. Possessive pronouns are of two sorts; conjunctive, and absolute, or relative.

Q. Which are the conjunctive possessive pronouns?

A. The conjunctive pronouns are those which are joined to substantives, and cannot be used by themselves: as, *my, thy, &c.*

Q.

Q. Which are they in French?

A. Singular. Plural.

Perf.	mas.	fem.	of both genders
1	mon	ma	mes my
2	ton	ta	tes thy
3	son	sa	ses his, or her

Of both genders

1	notre	nos	our
2	votre	vos	your
3	leur.	leurs	their.

Q. How do you decline these pronouns?

A. Singular. Plural.

1	mon	mes	my
2	de mon	de mes	of or from my
3	à mon	à mes	to my.

and all the rest after the same manner.

Q. With which substantive must these pronouns agree?

A. With the substantive that follows them, that is to say, with the thing possessed, and not with the person who possesses. ex.

mon crayon m.	my pencil
ma chaise f.	my chair.
son	

son fils m. his or her son
 sa fille f. his or her daughter.

Q. Which are the absolute or relative possessive pronouns?

A. Absolute or relative possessive pronouns are those which are used by themselves without any substantives after them, always relating to a substantive mentioned before ; as.

Here is your book where is mine?

Voici votre livre où est le mien?

Q. How are they expressed in French?

A. Singular. Plural.

1. m. le mien	les miens	} mine.
1. f. la mienne	les miennes	
2. m. le tien	les tiens	} thine.
2. f. la tienne	les tiennes	
3. m. le sien	les siens	} his or hers
3. f. la sienne	les siennes	
1. m. le nôtre	} les nôtres	ours.
1. f. la nôtre		
2. m. le vôtre	} les vôtres	yours.
2. f. la vôtre		
3. m. le leur	} les leurs	their.
3. f. la leur		

Q. *How are these pronouns declined?*

A. Singular.

mas.

fem.

1. le mien la mienne *mine*
2. du mien de la mienne *of or from mine*
3. au mien à la mienne *to mine.*

Plural.

1. les miens les miennes *mine*
2. des miens des miennes *of or from mine*
3. aux miens aux miennes. *to mine.*

and all the rest after the same manner.

S E C T I O N. III.

Of Demonstrative Pronouns.

Q. *What is the use of demonstrative pronouns?*

A. The demonstrative pronouns are so call'd because they serve to shew, or to point out persons or things.

Q. *Which are they?*

A. Singular. Plural.

ce or cet m.	} <i>this</i> or }	ces	{ <i>these</i> or <i>those</i> before a substantive
cette f.			

celui-ci m. } *this* { ceux-ci } *these* } *absolutely*
 celle-ci f. } { celles-ci } } *used.*
 celui-là m. } *that* { ceux-là } *those* }
 celle-là f. } { celles-là } }
 celui-qui m. *he or that* ceux qui } *those who.*
 celle qui f. *she, that* celles qui }
 ceci m. *this* } *referring only to things.*
 cela f. *that* }

Q. *How do you decline these pronouns?*

A. *Singular.*

1. *ce Monsieur this Gentleman*
2. *de ce Monsieur of or from this Gentle-*
man
3. *à ce Monsieur to this Gentleman.*

Plural.

1. *ces Messieurs these Gentlemen*
 2. *de ces Messieurs of or from these Gentle-*
men
 3. *à ces Messieurs to these Gentlemen.*
- and all the rest after the same manner.

Q. *Can you make use of the pronouns ce or cet indiscriminately?*

A. No, *ce* is to be used before nouns beginning with a consonant, and *cet* before nouns

nouns beginning with a vowel or an *h* mute as *ce maître* this master, *cet écolier* this scholar.

Q. *Is this Pronoun ce always rendered into English by this or that?*

A. No. When it is placed before the verb *être* to be, it is rendered into English by the impersonal pronoun *it*, as

C'est moi, it is me; *c'est elle*, it is she; *ce sont eux*, it is they; *c'est à moi*, it is to me, it is my turn, it belongs to me, or it is mine.

Q. *What the pronoun, ce means before qui or que?*

A. It means, *what*; as, *ce qui me fâche c'est de voir que vous ne faites pas attention à ce que je vous dis*. What grieves me is to see you pay no attention to *what* I say.

SECTION. IV.

Of Relative Pronouns.

Q. *What is the use of relative pronouns?*

f.

4

A. Relative pronouns are so call'd because they relate, or refer to some person or thing mentioned before, as, *voici une demoiselle qui parle François*, here is a young lady who speaks French.

Q. Which are these pronouns?

A. Qui, who or which of all genders and numbers.

Singular.		Plural.	
mas.	fem.	mas.	fem.
le quel	la quelle	les quels	les quelles
<i>who or which.</i>			

Q. How do you decline them?

Sing. & Plur.

Nom.	qui	<i>who or which</i>
Gen. & Abl.	{ de qui	<i>of or from whom</i>
	{ dont	<i>of or from whom or which</i>
Dat.	à qui	<i>to whom</i>
Acc.	que	<i>whom or which.</i>
Singular.		

	mas.	fem.	
1	le quel	la quelle	<i>which</i>
2	{ du quel	{ de la quelle	<i>of or from which</i>
	{ dont	{ dont	
3	au quel	à la quelle	<i>to which.</i>

Plural.

mas.	fem.	
1 les quels	les quelles	<i>which</i>
2 { des quels	des quelles	} <i>of or from</i>
{ dont	dont	
3 aux quels	aux quelles	<i>to which.</i>

Q. *What difference is there in the use of these pronouns?*

A. *Qui, dont and que*, are used speaking of persons as well as things; *de qui* and *à qui* are used only speaking of persons.

Q. *Is there any other relative pronouns?*

A. There is the pronoun *quoi*, what, which, or that: it has no nominative case, because it must always be preceded by a preposition; it is often used after *c'est*, it is; *c'étoit*, or *ce fut*, it was &c. when referring to inanimate things: as, *c'est de quoi je ne suis pas sur*: that I am not sure of.

Q. *How do you decline it?*

A. Sing. & Plur.

Gen. & Abl.	de quoi	<i>of or from</i>	} <i>what,</i> <i>which or</i> <i>that.</i>
Dat.	à quoi	<i>to</i>	
Acc.	quoi		

SECTION. V.

Of Interrogative Pronouns.

Q. *What is the use of interrogative pronouns?*

A. Interrogative pronouns are used in asking questions; as, *qui est là? who is there?*

Q. *Which are they?*

A. *qui who* } of both genders and
que what } numbers.

Singular.

Plural

mas. fem.

mas. fem.

quel quelle

quels quelles what

le quel la quelle les quels les quelles which

Q. *How do you decline them?*

A. Nom. *qui who*

Gen. & A. *de qui of or from whom* } meaning

Dat. *à qui to whom* } persons.

Acc. *qui whom.*

Nom. *que or quoi to what*

G. & A. *de quoi of or from what* } meaning

Dat. *à quoi to what.* } things

Acc. *quoi what.*

Singular.

Singular.		Plural.	
mas.	fem.	mas.	fem.
1 quel	quelle	quels	quelles <i>what</i>
2 de—	de—	de—	de— <i>of or from</i> <i>what</i>
3 à—	à—	à—	à— <i>to what.</i>

Singular.	
mas.	fem.
1 le quel	la quelle <i>which</i>
2 du—	de la— <i>of or from which</i>
3 au—	à la— <i>to which.</i>

Plural.	
mas.	fem.
1 les quels	les quelles <i>which</i>
2 des—	des— <i>of or from which</i>
3 aux—	aux— <i>to which.</i>

Q. *What difference is there in the use of these two last pronouns?*

A. The relative pronoun, *quel* requires a substantive after it in the first case, as; *quelle heure est il? what o'clock is it?* whereas *le quel* requires the second case, either expressed or understood: as, *la quelle de ces plumes voulez vous? which of these pens will*

will you have? both of them may be used speaking of persons as well as things.

SECTION. VI.

Of Improper or Indefinite Pronouns.

Q. *What is the use of the indefinite pronouns?*

A. Indefinite pronouns are used to express an indefinite object, as *chacun a ces défauts*, every one has his faults.

Q. *Why are they also call'd improper?*

A. They are so called because many of them can be looked upon as adjectives as well as pronouns.

Q. *Which are they?*

A. sing.	quelque	} some
plur.	quelques	
personne	nobody,	no man
rien	nothing,	
chaque	every, each,	
autre	other,	

autres

autres	others,	
tout	every thing,	
quiconque	} whoever, whosoever,	
qui que ce soit		
quelconque		
quoi que	} whatever,	
quelque que		
quel que		
quoi que ce soit		
tout ce que		
mas. fem.		
chacun	chacune	every one,
aucun	aucune	} none, not one.
nul	nulle	
pas un	pas une	
Singular.	Plural.	
m. quelqu'un	quelques-uns	} some
f. quelqu'une	quelques-unes	
m. l'un l'autres	les uns les autres	} one a-
f. l'une l'autre	les unes les autres	
m. l'un & l'autre	les uns & les autres	} both.
f. l'une & l'autre	les unes & les autres	
m. tel	tels	} such.
f. telle	telles	
d'autrui	of others.	à autrui to others.

Q. *You have expressed the word, whatever in six different ways in French: give me an example of each?*

A.

Il n'a droit *quelconque* | *he has no right what-*
| *ever.*

Quoi qu'il arrive | *whatever happens.*

Quelque prétexte que | *whatever pretext*
vous ayez | *you may have.*

Quel que soit votre | *whatever your hap-*
bonheur | *pinefs may be.*

Quoi que ce soit qu'il | *whatever he may*
vous dise | *tell you.*

Je ferai tout ce que vous | *I shall do whatever*
voudrez | *you please.*



C H A P. V.

Of Verbs.

Q. *What is a verb?*

A. A verb is a word which expresses the doing of an action either corporeal or mental.

Q.

Q. Which is the easiest way to distinguish a verb from an other part of speech?

A. All those words which will make sense after the pronouns *he, she, or it,* are verbs; consequently to play, to study, and to rain, are verbs, because we may say, *he plays, she studies, it rains.*

Q. How are verbs divided, with respect to their use and signification?

A. They are divided into active, passive, neuter, and reflected or reflective.

Q. What is an active verb?

A. An active verb expresses an action which must have an object to act upon; as *J'aime, I love; Je punis, I punish;* it is plain there must be an object whom I love, or punish: consequently active verbs have always an accusative after them, either expressed or understood.

Q. What is a passive verb?

A. A passive verb is nothing else but an active verb turned into a passive signification, that is to say, the nominative of the sentence instead of acting is acted

upon; as *Je suis aimé*, I am loved; *Il est puni*, he is punished.

Q. *What is a neuter verb?*

A. A neuter verb has the full signification of an action in itself, without reference to any other object, consequently it has no accusative case after it; as *Je dors*, I sleep; *Je touffe*, I cough.

Q. *What is a reflexive verb?*

A. Reflexive verbs are so call'd because they express an action which reflects back upon the same object that does it; as *Je me chauffe*, I warm myself; *il s'habille*, he dresses himself.

Q. *What is meant by conjugation of verbs?*

A. By conjugation of verbs it is meant the manner of using a verb in all its moods, tenses, and persons.

Q. *What are the moods of verbs?*

A. The moods signify the different manner of expressing an action with more or less precision with respect to the circumstance of time, number or person.

Q. *How many different moods are they?*

A.

A. Four, the infinitive, the indicative, the subjunctive, and the imperative.

Q. *What are the tenses of verbs?*

A. The tenses express the different periods of time in which an action happens, did happen, or will happen; what happens at present is present, what did happen is past tense, and what shall, or will happen is future tense.

Q. *What is the use of the infinitive mood?*

A. The infinitive mood is properly called the *root* of verbs; it is used to express an action without any distinction of time, number, or person; as *Parler*, to speak.

Q. *What is the use of the indicative mood?*

A. The indicative mood is used to indicate what subject acts, or is acted upon, and at what period of time a thing happens.

Q. *In how many different tenses can the indicative mood be expressed.*

A. The indicative mood can be expressed in seven different tenses; for,

although the tenses be properly three, *viz.* the past, the present, and the future; an action which is past can be mentioned as happened at different periods of time, and with different circumstances, which makes five past tenses.

Q. *Which are these seven tenses?*

A. The present, the imperfect, the preterperfect definite, the preterperfect indefinite, the first preterpluperfect, the second preterpluperfect and the future.

Q. *What is the use of the present tense?*

A. The present tense is used to express what happens at present; as *je parle*, I speak, I do speak, or I am speaking.

Q. *Which is the use of the imperfect?*

The imperfect tense is used first to express an action past, but which is mentioned at present to another action, as if it had been interrupted; as, *je parlois de vous quand vous êtes entré*, I was speaking of you when you came in. Secondly to express an action past which has happened repeatedly for some time, and is no longer; as, *je parlois*

parlois toujours françois quand j'étois en France,
I spoke always French when I was in France.

Thirdly, to express an action which, though happened once, it is presumed it was usual to the person who did it; as *je rencontraï un Monsieur qui parloit François*, I met a gentleman who spoke French. *

Q. Which is the use of the preterperfect definite?

A. The preterperfect definite is used to express an action past which happened once at a fixed period of time entirely elapsed; as *je parlai à votre frère la semaine passée*, I spoke to your brother last week.

Q. Which is the use of the preterperfect indefinite? A.

* In this last example we either mean that the gentleman was speaking French, or that he had the use or practice of speaking French; for, if, we say, I met a gentleman who spoke French to me, we should make use of the preterperfect definite and say, *qui me parla François*; because in this case the action of speaking French is neither mentioned as repeatedly used, nor as present, but rather posterior to the action of meeting.

A. The preterperfect indefinite is used to express an action past, but which happened in a period of time not entirely elapsed ; as *j'ai parlé à votre frère ce matin*, *I spoke* to your brother this morning : *je ne lui ai parlé qu'une, ou deux fois de ma vie*, *I have not spoken* to him more than once, or twice in my life.

Q. Which is the use of the first preterpluperfect ?

A. The first preterpluperfect is used to express an action past ; which happened before another action likewise past, as, *j'avois parlé à ma mère quand je vis ma sœur* : *I had spoken* to my mother when I saw my sister.

Q. Which is the use of the second preterpluperfect ?

A. The second pluperfect, called also anterior, is used to express an action entirely past when another happened ; as, *quand j'eus parlé à ma tante, je vis mon oncle*, when *I had spoken* to my aunt, I saw my uncle.

Q. Which is the use of the future tense ?

A. The future tense is used speaking

of

of an action which shall, or will happen ; as,
je parlerai à Monsieur votre père, I shall speak
 to your father.

Q. *Why is the subjunctive mood so called?*

A. The subjunctive mood is so called
 because it always joins to something which
 precedes it, either expressed or understood.

Q. *Which are the tenses of the subjunctive mood?*

A. The subjunctive mood has the pre-
 sent, imperfect, and perfect tense, both
 simple and compound, whose definition
 can be the same with that of the tenses of
 the indicative mood, except that they do
 not fix with so much precision the period
 of time in which an action happens.

Q. *Give me an example of each tense?*

Present tense.

Attendez que je parle | Stop that I may
à ce Monsieur. | speak to this Gentle-
| man.

Preterimperfect.

Si j'avois le tems je | If I had time I
parleroïis à votre maî- | would speak to your
tre. | master.

Preterperfect.

Il souhaitoit que je | *He wished I might*
parlasse à sa mère. | *speak to his mother.*

Compound present.

Peut être que j'aye | *Perhaps I may have*
parlé à votre ami. | *spoken to your*
| *friend.*

Compound imperfect.

Si je l'avois vu, je lui | *Had I seen him, I*
aurois parlé | *would have spoken*
| *to him.*

Compound perfect.

Il ne voulut pas atten- | *He would not wait*
dre que je lui eusse | *that I might have*
parlé. | *spoken to him.*

Q. Which is the use of the imperative mood?

A. The imperative mood is used to command, desire, or forbid; as, parlez haut, speak aloud, ne parlez pas, do not speak.

Q. How are verbs divided with respect to their conjugation?

A. They are divided into regular and irregular, personal and impersonal.

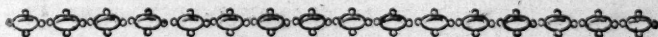
Q.

Q. What difference is there between a regular and an irregular verb?

A. A regular verb is conjugated regularly after the manner of the greatest part of those of the same termination. An irregular verb has a conjugation peculiar to itself, or few more.

Q. What difference is there between a personal and an impersonal verb?

A. A personal verb is conjugated through all the persons and numbers ; as, *je parle*, I speak ; *tu parles*, thou speakest ; *il parle*, he speaks ; *nous parlons*, we speak ; *vous parlez*, you speak ; *ils parlent*, they speak. An impersonal verb is conjugated only in the third person singular ; as *il pleut*, it rains ; *il pleuvoit*, it did rain ; *il plut*, it rained ; *il pleuvra*, it will rain &c



CHAP. VI.

Of Participles and Gerund.

Q. *What is a participle?*

A. A participle is an adjective noun
formed

formed of a verb and which partakes of the nature of both.

Q. *How many sorts of participles are they?*

A. Two: the active, or present; as, *parlant*, speaking, and the passive, or past; as, *parlé*, spoken.

Q. *What is the use of the participle active?*

A. The participle active is sometimes used with a substantive to express a quality of the same; as, *un enfant parlant trois langues*, a child *speaking* three languages, or who speaks three languages.

Q. *What is a Gerund?*

A. A gerund is the same with the participle active, having the same termination in *ant* for all verbs; as, *en parlant toujours François vous vous exercerez dans la langue*, by *speaking* always French you will practice yourself in the language.

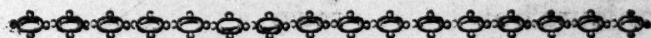
Q. *The participle active and the gerund having both the same termination, how can you distinguish the one from the other?*

A. When it is preceded, or could be preceded.

preceded by the preposition *en*; in, or by it is a gerund, and when refers to a substantive noun is a participle active.

Q. *What is the use of the participle passive or past?*

A. The participle passive, or past is used; first, with the verb *être*, to be, to express a passive signification; as, *je suis aimé*, I am *loved*; secondly, with the verb *avoir*, to have, to form the compound tenses of all other verbs; as, *j'ai parlé*, I have *spoken*; thirdly, joined to a substantive like an adjective noun; as, *la fille aimée*, the *beloved* girl.



CHAP. VII.

Of Adverbs.

Q. *What is an adverb?*

A. An adverb is an undeclinable word which, added to the verb, serves to express some circumstances of it; as, *je parle fin-
h 2 cèrement,*

cerement, I speak *sincerely*.

Q. *How many different sorts of adverbs are there?*

A. There are nine sorts of adverbs; viz. of time, quality and manners, place, order, quantity, doubt, negation and affirmation, comparison, and interrogation.

Q. *Which are the adverbs of time the most used?*

A.

Maintenant	}	now
à présent		
tout à l'heure		presently
sur le champ		directly
aujourd'hui		to day
hier		yesterday
demain		to morrow
jadis		of old
ci-devant		heretofore, late
jusqu'ici		hitherto
bientôt		soon
dans peu		shortly
déformais		henceforth
d'abord		at first

souvent

souvent	often
quelquefois	sometimes
rarement	seldom
jamais	never
cependant	mean while
de bonne heure	early, betimes
de bon matin	early in the morning
alors	then
depuis	since
encore	again
de deux jours l'un	every other day
tout d'un coup	all at once
tout à coup	suddenly
à propos	seasonably
de tems en tems	now and then. &c.

Q. Which are the adverbs of quality and manner.

A.

Tendrement	tenderly
bien	well, right
joliment	prettily
adroitement	cleverly
honnêtement	honestly, decently, civilly, kindly &c.

de

de but en blanc	<i>bluntly</i>
à fond	<i>thoroughly</i>
pleinement	<i>fully</i>
à peine	<i>hardly</i>
de bon cœur	<i>heartily</i>
volontier	<i>willingly</i>
exprès	<i>on purpose</i>
à reculons	<i>backwards</i>
à tâtons	<i>groping</i>
tout de bon	<i>in good earnest</i>
fottement	<i>foolishly</i>
à la hâte	<i>hastily</i>
au hazard	<i>at random</i>
par hazard	<i>by chance</i>
tout à fait	<i>quite</i>
tranquillement	<i>quietly</i>
soigneusement	<i>carefully</i>
grossièrement	<i>rudely</i>
à pied	<i>on foot</i>
à cheval	<i>on horseback</i>
à califourchons	<i>a-straddle &c.</i>

Q. *Which are the adverbs of place?*

A.

où	<i>where</i>
ici	<i>here</i>

là or y	<i>there</i>
par ici	<i>this way</i>
par là	<i>that way</i>
là haut	<i>above</i>
en haut	<i>up stairs</i>
en bas	<i>below</i>
en dedans	<i>within</i>
en dehors	<i>without</i>
loin	<i>far</i>
de près	<i>near</i>
tout près, à côté	<i>by</i>
vis-à-vis	<i>over against</i>
nulle part	<i>no where</i>
ailleurs	<i>elsewhere</i>
ça et là	<i>up and down</i>
tout droit	<i>streight along &c.</i>

Q. Which are the adverbs of order?

A.

Premièrement	<i>first</i>
secondement	<i>secondly</i>
en premier lieu	<i>in the first place</i>
avant	<i>before</i>
après	<i>after</i>
en suite	<i>afterwards</i>

de front	<i>a-breast</i>
tour à tour	<i>by turns</i>
à la fois	<i>at once</i>
en fin	<i>in short, at last</i>
pêle-mêle	<i>promiscuously</i>
en foule	<i>in a crowd</i>
sans dessus dessous	<i>topsy-turvy</i>
pareillement	<i>likewise &c.</i>

Q. Which are the adverbs of quantity?

A.

Combien	<i>how much, how many</i>
peu	<i>little</i>
tant soit peu	<i>ever so little</i>
beaucoup	<i>much</i>
guère	<i>but little</i>
assez	<i>enough</i>
trop	<i>too much</i>
peu à peu	<i>little by little</i>
tant	<i>so much, so many</i>
autant	<i>as much, as many</i>
plus	<i>more</i>
moins	<i>less</i>
à foison	<i>in a great number</i>
à demi	<i>half &c.</i>

Q.

Q. Which are the adverbs of doubt?

A.

Peut être	<i>perhaps</i>
probablement	<i>probably</i>
vraisemblablement	<i>very likely</i>
apparemment	<i>in appearance &c.</i>

Q. Which are the adverbs of negation and affirmation?

A.

Non, ne, point, pas	<i>No, not</i>
point du tout	<i>not at all</i>
nullement	<i>by no means</i>
oui, si fait	<i>yes</i>
certainement	<i>certainly &c.</i>

Q. Which are adverbs of comparison?

A.

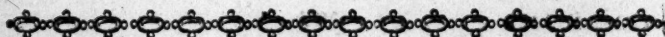
ainfi	<i>thus, so</i>
plus	<i>more</i>
moins	<i>less</i>
pis	<i>worse</i>
mieux	<i>better</i>
de mieux en mieux	<i>better and better</i>
de pis en pis	<i>worse and worse</i>
à plus forte raison	<i>much more so</i>
	<i>autrement</i>

auffement	<i>otherwise</i>
fur-tout	<i>above all</i>
après tout	<i>after all</i>
au contraire	<i>on the contrary &c.</i>

Q. Which are the adverbs of Interrogation?

A.

Quand?	<i>when?</i>
pourquoi?	<i>why?</i>
comment?	<i>how?</i>
combien?	<i>how much? how many?</i>



CHAP. VIII.

Of Prepositions.

Q. What is a preposition?

A. A preposition is a word placed before a noun or pronoun which it governs, or before a verb.

Q. Which are they?

A.

de *of, or from*

à	to
chez	at
dans	in
par	by
pour	for
avant	before
après	after
derriere	behind
contre	against
depuis	since
jusqu'à	untill, till
hormis	except, but
loin de	far from
près de	near
vis-à-vis	opposite
sans	without
selons, suivant	according to
sur, dessus	upon, on
sur, par dessus	over
au delà de	beyond
dessous, par dessous	under
vers, du côté de	towards
à l'égard de	as to, with respect to
au lieu de	instead of

à travers

through

avec

with

Q. *Many of these prepositions as, near, by, &c have been mentioned as adverbs also; how can you distinguish which of these two parts of speech they stand for?*

A. When they are added to a verb, they are adverbs; as look *near*; regardez *de près*, when they are before a noun, or pronoun, they are prepositions; as, *near* London, *près de* Londres.



C H A P. IX.

Of Conjunctions.

Q. *What is a conjunction?*

A. A conjunction serves to join a word with another, and part of a sentence with another; as, *vous et moi*, you and I. *Votre sœur est jolie, mais elle est un peu capricieuse*; your sister is handsome, but she is a little whimsical.

Q.

Q. Which are they?

A.

et, &	and, &
ni	neither, nor
ou	or
mais	but
que	that

Q. Which are the conjunctions which govern the indicative mood in French?

A.

si	if
de sorte que	so that
de maniere que	} in such a manner
de façon que	
comme	that
comme si	as
au lieu que	as if
puisque	when
tandis que	since
parceque	whilst
à peine	because
aussitôt que	scarce
dès que	} as soon as
après que	
vu que	after that
tant que	seeing that
	as long as

outre que	<i>besides that</i>
autant que	<i>as much as</i>
d'autant que	<i>whereas</i>

Q. Which are the conjunctions which govern the subjunctive mood in French ?

A.

afin que	<i>to the end that</i>
avant que	<i>before</i>
sans que	<i>without</i>
à moins que	<i>unless, except</i>
soit que	<i>whether</i>
supposez que	<i>suppose that</i>
en cas que	<i>in case that</i>
ce n'est pas que	<i>it is not that</i>
pourvu que	<i>provided</i>
bien entendu que	} <i>on condition that</i>
à condition que	
de peur que	} <i>lest</i>
de crainte que	
il s'en faut bien que	<i>it is so far from</i>
non obstant que	<i>notwithstanding that</i>
DIEU veuille que	<i>GOD grant that</i>
à DIEU ne plaife que	<i>GOD forbid.</i>

CHAP.

C H A P. X.

Of Interjections.

Q. *What is an interjection?*

A. An interjection is a word which serves to express some extraordinary emotion of the soul; such as admiration, surprise, joy &c. as,

ah!

ha!

bon!

good!

helas!

alas!

holà, hé!

oh there!

fi!

fy!



F I N I S .

